

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 008644  
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIL-01 SIG-01 MMO-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DHA-02 PA-01  
PRS-01 USIA-06 /052 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I:LPSLEZAK:PCS  
APPROVED BY AF/I:WHLEUIS  
S/IL:DGOOD  
AF/EX:PKENNEDY  
AF/S:FCRUMP

-----140656Z 038388 /11

R 140029Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SF, XA, GH, PFOR

SUBJECT:OATUU WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

REFERENCE: (A) ACCRA 0064 (NOTAL)  
(B) STATE 304283 (NOTAL)

1. FYI: THE DEPARTMENT IS INFORMED OF THE FOLLOWING  
EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS BETWEEN OATUU GENSEC DENNIS AKUMU  
AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY OVER THE OATUU CALL  
FOR A WEEK OF TRADE UNION ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

2. AKUMU TELEGRAM RECEIVED 11 JAN. QUOTE: WORKERS OF  
AFRICAN AND WORLD TRADE UNIONS LAUNCHING ONE WEEK  
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PAGE 02 STATE 008644

CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA 17-22 JANUARY 1977.  
AFRICAN WORKERS ARE COUNTING THROUGH YOU ON SUPPORT OF  
AMERICAN WORKERS. HIGHEST REGARDS, DENNIS AKUMU, GENSEC,  
OATUU. UNQUOTE.

3. MEANY REPLY OF 12 JAN. QUOTE: RE YOUR CABLE SUBJECT  
BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA. PLEASE RECEIVE COPY OF MY

CABLE TO GENERAL SECRETARY OF ICFTU ON SAME SUBJECT.  
INNER QUOTE. TO: OTTO KERSTEN, INTERCONFED, BRUSSELS,  
BELGIUM. REFERENCE YOUR CABLE CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS  
DAY AND A WEEK OF TRADE UNION ACTION AGAINST SOUTH

AFRICA, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE AFL-CIO WILL CONTINUE  
ITS PUBLIC AND LONG-STANDING OPPOSITION TO THE APARTHEID  
POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.  
HOWEVER, THE AFL-CIO WILL NOT JOIN IN ANY MOMENTARY  
ACTIVITY WHICH INDICATES THE MISCONCEPTION OF OR BLINDNESS  
TO THE DOUBLE STANDARD OF SELECTING CERTAIN REPRESSIVE  
REGIMES FOR ATTACK AND OTHERS FOR CURRYING FAVOR. THE  
AFL-CIO WILL SUPPORT MEASURES WHICH APPLY SANCTIONS  
AGAINST REPRESSIVE REGIMES WHEN THOSE ACTIONS ARE  
TAKEN WITH THE FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT COERCIVE AND  
BRUTAL POLITICAL SYSTEMS ARE INDIVISIBLE IN THE EYES OF  
FREE WORKING MEN AND WOMEN THE WORLD OVER. ANY OTHER  
POSITION MOCKS THE GRAVE AND PERILOUS CONDITIONS OF  
MILLIONS OF WORKERS IN BONDAGE TO DICTATORIAL AND  
MINORITY REGIMES ON EVERY CONTINENT AND WOULD AID AND  
ENCOURAGE OPPRESSION, NOT THE OPPRESSED. SIGNED  
GEORGE MEANY. END INNER QUOTE. IN VIEW OF THIS  
DECISION WE WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THE EFFORT YOU  
MAKE TO CONDEMN APARTHEID POLICY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN  
GOVERNMENT. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE OATUU WILL  
IMPARTIALLY CONDEMN TYRANNY AND OPPRESSION OF WORKERS  
AND PEOPLES WHEREVER IN THE WORLD IT OCCURS. REGARDS,  
GEORGE MEANY. UNQUOTE.

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PAGE 03 STATE 008644

4. EXCHANGE RESULT OF OATUU CALL, IN WHICH ICFTU AND  
WFTU COOPERATING, FOR TRADE UNION ACTION WEEK OF JAN.  
17-22 INCLUDING REFUSAL TO HANDLE SA CARGO AND MAILS, RE-  
FUSE SERVICE TO AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS BOUND TO  
OR FROM SA, RALLIES AND RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR  
MANDATORY SANCTIONS.

5. AFL-CIO REPLY CONSISTENT WITH LONG-STANDING POSITION  
THAT MANY INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, WHILE  
CORRECTLY ATTACKING CERTAIN OPPRESSIVE REGIMES, DISREGARD  
BRUTALITIES OF OTHERS. ALSO THAT SHORT-TERM DEMONSTRATIONS  
ARE LARGELY INEFFECTIVE IN TERMS OF RESULTS.  
KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** POLICIES, APARTHEID, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE, LABOR UNIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 ACCRA 64, 77 STATE 304283  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Subject:** OATUU WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PFOR, SF, XA, GH, AFL-CIO, OATUU, (MEANY, GEORGE), (AKUMU, DENNIS),  
**To:** AF POSTS JOHANNESBURG MULTIPLE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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